



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
MAY 12, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 57

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices in the major terminal markets were generally unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Retail demand was mixed, in a full range of light to good. Food service was generally good entering the holiday weekend. Supplies were at least adequate to ample. In the parts structure, breast items continued to be in the best position, particularly bone-in breasts. All other items were sufficient for the irregular interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 05/15-05/20/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Including branded product)		COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Chicago	42.00-46.00	36.00-60.00	45.76	25
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	53.00-56.00	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	56.00-58.00	42.00-60.00	57.09	80

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT		
LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
591	52.17-59.50	57.34
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	136.00	3,925
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.50	1,750
THIGH MEAT - B/S	94.50	601
LEG QUARTERS	18.50	7,750
WINGS	49.00	2,668

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was generally fair to moderate entering the weekend. Supplies were usually sufficient, however, availability of transportation remained problematic in some areas. In the parts structure, breast items remained in the strongest position. All other items were at least adequate for current needs. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was steady. Regular commitments traded at unchanged prices with new negotiations higher. Offerings overall adequate. Discount levels not as steep as last week. Retail demand moderate by stores, restaurants moderate to good best to cover Mother's Day weekend needs. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Reported trading on parts for delivery into California: bone-in breasts 68-71 and boneless breasts 137-138.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged from last Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady. Additional offerings of wogs and whole birds adequate or available for the light buyer interest. Retail movement was noted as light to fairly good, mostly fairly good. Food service demand moderate to good and clearing well. Floor stocks adequate, sizes desirable to instances heavy. Parts trading was active on whole breasts for the barely adequate to short supplies. Balance of items trading light to moderate, supplies fully sufficient. In Ohio, a retail feature reported on split breasts at 69 cents. Trade sentiment steady to firm on bone-in breasts, steady on all other items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was generally good heading into the weekend. Offerings were at least sufficient, regardless of size. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was moderate to good. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were usually short and continued to demand premiums. All other parts were adequate to fully adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased entering the weekend and most plants reported satisfactory clearances. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate and were generally in the closer balance on the over 3 pound sizes. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to heavy. Some operations were planned for Saturday while some plants were reducing schedules. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate to closely cleared.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	55-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.34
NO. OF BOXES	9,206
CUMULATIVE	05/08/00-05/12/00 58.33
	05/10/99-05/14/99 60.49
NO. OF BOXES	05/08/00-05/12/00 37,734
	05/10/99-05/14/99 35,201

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

MAY 11, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 12, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	627	120.00-175.00	125-130	127.87	727	125.00-175.00	125-135	131.47	3,079	130.60
TENDERLOINS	146	145.00-205.00	145-150	154.25	273	145.00-205.00	145-147	165.84	697	160.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	124	58.00-61.00	-	60.85	136	60.00-64.00	-	63.76	642	60.74
FRONT HALVES	140	47.00-50.00	-	47.75	70	49.00-51.00	-	50.00	470	49.25
LEGS	49	27.00-34.00	-	28.29	92	27.00-34.00	-	27.91	366	28.10
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	729	14.50-18.00	15-17	15.81	687	15.00-18.00	15-17	15.85	3,381	15.83
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,180	17.00-20.00	19-20	18.97	965	18.00-20.00	19-20	19.21	5,017	19.09
WINGS (WHOLE)	134	41.00-48.00	43-45	44.23	157	41.00-48.00	43-45	44.36	702	43.83
WINGS (CUT)	422	52.00-72.00	52-55	55.62	460	51.00-72.00	55-56	55.11	2,225	55.13
DRUMSTICKS	87	25.00-34.00	-	25.72	86	25.00-34.00	-	25.63	356	25.91
THIGHS	10	20.00-34.00	-	32.60	48	22.00-34.00	-	24.00	123	25.43
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				101	75.54

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAY 11, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

RANGE

AVERAGE

30.75 - 34.00

31.78

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR MAY 12, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S

RANGE

AVERAGE

5-DAY

AVERAGE

32.00 - 34.50

32.93

32.63

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was fair to good as Mother's Day weekend approached. Many dealers, however, were disappointed in sales this year as compared to previous years. Bone-in breasts continued to be actively sought after and sold at premiums. All other items were at least sufficient for current trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was moderate to good and features planned for next week were expected to increase buyer interest. The market tone was firm on bone-in breasts and generally steady on the remainder of items. PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

MAY 12, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	135.58	366,960		130-135	135.48	483,840		134.38	2,093,440
TENDERLOINS	135	149.67	73,760		135	150.39	103,200		149.68	403,990
BREAST - WITH RIBS	56-57	64.89	266,440		58-59	65.25	224,040		63.15	1,138,520
BREAST - LINE RUN	56	61.46	117,000		58	63.75	72,000		60.14	595,000
LEGS	29-30	34.25	162,080		29-30	33.18	247,440		32.43	1,013,280
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	20.26	304,895		18-19	20.78	205,520		19.82	1,510,566
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.21	113,420		34-35	33.94	116,680		33.51	577,373
THIGHS	28-29	30.76	135,840		28-29	32.83	87,960		31.81	500,520
B/S THIGHS	86-87	91.88	47,400		86-87	92.51	45,640		91.11	261,520
WINGS (WHOLE)	50-51	60.57	263,640		50-51	59.41	187,400		58.84	1,006,960
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	65,720		10-12	12.12	75,000		12.02	354,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.79	61,100		30-35	34.62	68,600		34.46	317,860
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.57	85,240		40-45	44.79	101,720		44.54	447,180

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
	05/12	05/11	05/10	05/09	05/10	05/09	05/05	05/03
ALA	3,769	3,735	3,905	3,734	4.98	5.03	4,027	5.03
ARK	5,563	4,863	4,981	4,985	4.87	4.83	5,340	4.89
DELMARVA	2,435	2,401	2,331	2,332	5.04	5.09	2,361	5.11
KY-LA-TN	2,079	2,094	2,065	2,095	4.45	4.49	2,073	4.45
MISS	2,845	2,753	2,651	2,760	5.00	5.08	2,741	5.18
NC	2,596	2,603	2,408	2,509	5.74	6.01	2,632	5.74
TEXAS	2,566	2,330	2,318	2,326	4.79	4.78	2,339	4.87
TOTAL	21,853	20,779	20,659	20,741	4.98	5.00	21,513	5.03
MON-FRI	106,292(A)						105,333(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 12-May & 13-May-00 is estimated to be 32,695,000 up 4.88 percent from a week ago and up 2.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 31,906,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 13-May-00 is estimated to be 154,902,000 head down 0.9 percent from a week ago, and up 1.6 percent from a year ago (Last week 156,250,000 Last year 152,430,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	102-104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	92-96
HENS OVER 5#	107-111
DUCKS	119
	98
	95
	152-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Apr 29, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning

Food service

4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

-----THOUSANDS-----

Head	33,219	33,210	49,028
Avg Weight	3.77	4.81	6.09
% of total /1	29%	29%	42%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	26,005	32,289	40,617
Avg Weight	3.71	4.72	6.02
% of total /1	26%	33%	41%
Same week, yr ago /2	36,967	27,581	48,119
Avg Weight	3.82	4.76	6.04
% of total /1	33%	24%	43%
To date/2000	561,347	540,519	690,464
To date/1999	562,818	478,055	734,585

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 06-May-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	156,250 (A)	2,124	1,403	3,527	408
AVG WT	5.10	3.36	8.11	5.25	6.76
LAST WEEK	152,156	2,036	1,424	3,460	486
YR AGO	154,413	2,356	1,369	3,725	435
AVG WT	5.07	3.32	8.41	5.19	6.38
2000	2,761,739	36,750	24,709	61,459	8,117
1999	2,705,740	39,448	24,164	63,612	8,137

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 158.1 million head or 2.0 million head more than or 101 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: MAY 09, 2000

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.70 - .82	Silkie	2.75 - 3.50ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.76 - 1.00	Geese 9-14	.30 - .42
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.40 - .62	Pigeons	2.35 - 2.85ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.50 - .74	White Pigeons	2.60 - 3.00ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .82	Rabbits 4-6	.90 - 1.20
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.50 - 1.04	Rabbits 7-11	.90 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - 1.10	Bunnies	1.00 - 5.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	.60 - 1.10	Guinea Pigs	1.00 - 3.00ea.
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 7.00ea.	Goats	40.00 - 62.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 4.00ea.	Kid Goats	20.00 - 32.00ea.
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .34	Pullets 4-6	.60 - .82
Leghorn Roosters	.30 - .54		
Total Coops Sold 756			

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY for THE WEEK OF MAY 08, 2000

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-58	54-55
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	71-75
SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES		
12 OZ.	60.48-69.66	
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14	
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43	

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to moderate. Sizes were desirable and slaughter schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 08-MAY-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS

AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

		MILLION HEAD	MILLION HEAD		
WEEK ENDING		SLAUGHTERED	AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
APRIL	1	158.1	152.9	103	4.97
	8	155.5	150.5	103	5.03
	15	156.7	149.4	105	5.05
	22	148.3	149.9	99	5.05
	29	154.0	153.5	100	5.04
MAY	6	158.1	156.1	101	5.10
YEAR TO DATE		2795.3	2730.9	102	
MAY	13		157.2		
	20		157.2		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 06-May-00

IN THOUSANDS
Broilers 2,741 HD, 14,198 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 756 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----					
W/E	05/13/00	05/06/00	%CHG	05/15/99	%CHG	
Broilers	154,902	*156,250	-01	*152,430	+02	
Cattle	707	702	+01	*709	0	
Hogs	1,779	1,795	-01	*1,855	-04	
Under Federal Inspection						
* ACTUAL						

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Majority prices were lower on heavy cannery and unchanged to slightly lower on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was only fair and usually unaggressive. Offerings were adequate to available. The undertone was still unsettled and barely steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
24-26 MAJORITY	31-35 MAJORITY 33-35
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
25-26.5 MAJORITY	31-36 MAJORITY 34-36

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Demand was at best fair. Offerings were mostly ample for needs. Processing schedules were light to heavy. Finished product was clearing at about unchanged to slightly lower levels. Undertone was generally steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Pricing was too few to report. Demand was light for spent leghorn fowl. Sales were light with volume produced exceeding current needs. Trade sentiment was weak.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices unchanged. Demand was light to moderate for the mostly ample offerings. Schedules full-time. A good number of spent birds were going to alternative disposal sites. Trade sentiment about steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plants worked full schedules. Offerings exceeded available line time.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Buyers were cautious and unaggressive. Offerings were usually ample for processing needs. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Cannery were usually adequate or available. Market conditions were barely steady to weak.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of heavy hens. Finished sales were slow. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was weak.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.

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